

A GUIDE TO  
MONTANA HISTORICAL MUSEUMS

*January 1980*

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*Produced by the  
Montana Multi-Cultural History Project*

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A guide to Montana historical museums /



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January, 1980

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## INTRODUCTION

The primary goals of the Montana Multi-Cultural History Project are to increase public use and appreciation of cultural institutions such as museums and libraries, to encourage resource sharing among these institutions, and to make greater use of existing resources for the public good. In an effort to accomplish these objectives, and to provide information necessary to develop public programs, a survey of historical resources in the state's museums was initiated in June of 1979. In addition, questionnaires were distributed to eighty historical museums throughout the state; seventy-two responses were received. Those responses are presented in this listing of Montana's historical museums for your information and use. The resource survey included on-site visits by Dan Gallacher to museums throughout Montana in an effort to assess their needs, interests, and strengths.

The museums in this guide are arranged alphabetically by name, and are indexed according to general topics which describe the individual collections. A map which precedes the listings locates the museums by city. Museums in the state vary greatly in physical size, the size and depth of their collections, and in their presentation of artifacts. In some, artifacts of many types are presented without thematic interpretation; in others, exhibitions are designed to interpret a particular topic or theme. Major strengths of collections, as identified by the museums, are indicated by an asterisk in the Index.

State monuments or parks are included that have special historical significance and interpretive displays. For a detailed listing of state monuments, state parks, and historic sites, refer to the Montana Historic Preservation Plan compiled by the Fish and Game Commission in July, 1975.

These survey results provide a general profile of museum holdings in Montana which we hope will be useful to people throughout the state. We hope also that this compilation will not only encourage Montanans to visit both local and regional museums, but will help museums to share their resources and expertise with each other and with other cultural institutions.

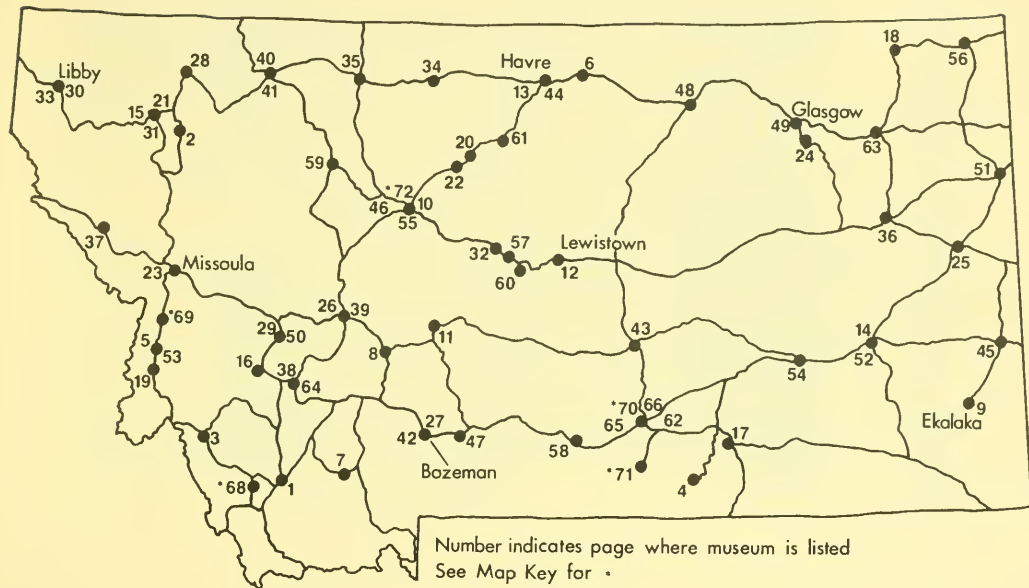
Special thanks are given to Melinda Quivik and Brian Shovers for putting this handbook together, and to Dan Gallacher, who added over 5,000 miles to his odometer while visiting more than 40 museums and a number of individuals as a part of our resource assessment. Melinda Quivik also deserves a round of applause for preparing the companion to this handbook: the highway map of Montana historical collections. Without the cooperation of people in museums across the state, this publication would have been impossible. We are grateful to all of them.

Valerie Peacock  
Project Director

## KEY TO MUSEUM MAP

<u>Map # and page</u>	<u>Town</u>	<u>Museum name</u>
16	Anaconda	Copper Village Museum and Arts Center
45	Baker	O'Fallon Historical Museum
2	Bigfork	Bigfork in Miniature
62	Billings	Western Heritage Center
65	Billings	Yellowstone Art Center
66	Billings	Yellowstone County Museum
61	Big Sandy	Virgelle Mercantile
27	Bozeman	Gallatin Pioneers Museum
42	Bozeman	Museum of the Rockies
40	Browning	Museum of Montana Wildlife
41	Browning	Museum of the Plains Indian
38	Butte	Mineral Museum
64	Butte	World Museum of Mining
34	Chester	Liberty County Museum
6	Chinook	Blaine County Museum
59	Choteau	Teton Trail Village Museum
36	Circle	McCone County Museum

# MAP OF HISTORICAL MUSEUMS



58	Columbus	Stillwater County Historical Gallery
17	Crow Agency	Custer Battlefield National Monument
19	Darby	Darby Pioneer Memorial Museum
29	Deer Lodge	Grant-Kohrs Ranch: National Historic Site
50	Deer Lodge	Powell County Museum and Arts Foundation
1	Dillon	Beaverhead County Museum
9	Ekalaka	Carter County Museum
54	Forsyth	Rosebud County Pioneer Museum
22	Fort Benton	Fort Benton Museum
24	Fort Peck	Fort Peck Museum
4	Fort Smith	Bighorn Canyon National Recreation Area
49	Glasgow	Pioneer Museum
25	Glendive	Frontier Gateway Museum
10	Great Falls	Cascade County Historical Museum
46	Great Falls	Paris Gibson Square
55	Great Falls	Charles M. Russell Museum
5	Hamilton	Bitterroot Heritage Center
53	Hamilton	Ricketts Memorial Museum
13	Havre	H. Earl Clack Memorial Museum
44	Havre	Northern Montana College Collections
26	Helena	Frontier Town Museum



39	Helena	Montana Historical Society
15	Kalispell	Conrad Mansion
21	Kalispell	Flathead Historical Society
31	Kalispell	Hockaday Center for the Arts
12	Lewistown	Central Montana Museum
30	Libby	Heritage Museum
33	Libby	Libby Branch: Montana Historical Society
47	Livingston	Park County Museum
20	Loma	Earth Science Museum
48	Malta	Phillips County Historical Museum
14	Miles City	Coffrin's Old West Gallery
52	Miles City	Range Rider's Museum
23	Missoula	Fort Missoula Historical Museum
56	Plentywood	Sheridan County Historical Museum
43	Roundup	Musselshell Valley Historical Museum
18	Scobey	Daniels County Museum
35	Shelby	Marias Museum of History and Art
51	Sidney	J.K. Ralston Museum and Art Center
32	Stanford	Judith Basin Museum
37	Superior	Mineral County Historical Museum
8	Townsend	Broadwater County Museum

60	Utica	Utica Museum
7	Virginia City	Bovey Restorations
28	West Glacier	Glacier National Park Museum
11	White Sulphur Springs	Castle Museum
57	Windham	Sod Buster Museum
3	Wisdom	Big Hole National Battlefield
63	Wolf Point	Wolf Point Area Historical Society Museum

The following— indicated by \* on the Map— are listed because of their historical significance:

*68	Bannack	Bannack State Park
*70	Billings	Pictograph Caves: State Monument
*72	Great Falls	Ulm Pishkun: State Monument
*71	Pryor	Plenty Coups Museum
*69	Stevensville	Fort Owen

## BEAVERHEAD COUNTY MUSEUM

Box 466, DILLON 59725

Prepared by: Rex C. Myers, Curator

Schedule of hours: Summer— 9:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.; Winter— 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. No admission charged.

Brief description of collection: Exhibits which reflect the breadth of pioneer life in Southwestern Montana from the first white settlement to the 1930's. There is no single strength or point of concentration.

Major emphasis of museum: Diverse history of Beaverhead County and the communities in it: mining, logging, farm/ranch.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Minimal information, but some: Chinese and other ethnic groups in Beaverhead County.

Special strengths of collections: Mining, agriculture (farm/ranching), urban (community) history.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Most are permanent; some change periodically.

## BIGFORK IN MINIATURE

BIGFORK 59911 (Box 426, LOCATED IN THE VILLAGE SQUARE ART CENTER)

Prepared by: O'Neil Jones

Schedule of hours: Hours not given, but there is no admission charge, and an unsolicited jar is left out for donations for maintenance and operation.

Brief description of collection: Complete oldtime barber shop, hotel lobby, doctor's office, stage stop, grocery store and Indian encampment, printing office, chapel, homestead living room, typical saloon of the 1890's, and assay office.

Major emphasis of museum: Old homestead and logging town.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: American Plains Indian, ancient pottery.

Special strengths of collections: Stage coach history, out-going registers: Helena, Virginia City to Franklin, Utah.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Mostly permanent; add something unique occasionally.

## BIG HOLE NATIONAL BATTLEFIELD

WISDOM 59761

Prepared by: G.W. Schulmeyer

Schedule of hours: Memorial Day to Labor Day— Daily: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.;  
Other times: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., daily.

Brief description of collection: Generally a small collection. Very small study collection of Nez Perce artifacts and artifacts of the 7th Infantry in 1877. Copies of a few historic photographs. Copies of military records from the National Archives.

Major emphasis of museum: Nez Perce War of 1877 and the Battle of the Big Hole.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Nez Perce Indians and 7th Infantry as of 1877.

Special strengths of collections: Copies of service records for soldiers.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent.

BIGHORN CANYON NATIONAL RECREATION AREA

FORT SMITH 59035

Prepared by: Paul Sordor

Schedule of hours: Open daily: Memorial Day through Labor Day; Weekends:  
April, May and September: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Brief description of collection: Crow Indian cultural items, homestead items.

Major emphasis of museum: Construction of the Yellowtail Dam, Crow Indian  
history.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Yes.

Special strengths of collections: None.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both.

BITTERROOT HERITAGE CENTER

OLD COURTHOUSE, P.O. BOX 5015, HAMILTON 59840

Prepared by: Joel Bernstein

Curator: Erma Owings

Schedule of hours: Monday through Friday: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Brief description of collection: Everything from photos, all pioneer gear, Indian materials, forestry, mining, Ricketts Museum Collection, research library, etc.

Major emphasis of museum: Entire history of the Bitterroot Valley.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Yes.

Special strengths of collections: Good archives.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both.

## BLAINE COUNTY MUSEUM

Box 927, CHINOOK 59523

Prepared by: Helen C. Parsons, Curator.

Schedule of hours: Open Tuesday through Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;  
Sunday: 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Monday: 10:00 a.m. to  
5:00 p.m.; no admission charge.

Brief description of collection: Brochure enclosed in summary includes  
paleontology, Lloyd Sweet personal collection, Indian culture, early West,  
homestead shack, early churches, early day school, doctor's office,  
dental office, Battle of the Bear's Paw, Blaine County history.

Major emphasis of museum: Paleontology, farming and ranching.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: See above.

Special strengths of collections: Blaine County.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both.



## BOVEY RESTORATIONS

VIRGINIA AND NEVADA CITIES 59755

Prepared by: John D. Ellingsen

Schedule of hours: May through September 10— Every day: 8:30 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.;  
Adults: \$1.50; Students: 75¢; Children with adults: free.

Brief description of collection: All things pertaining to life in 1860's to early 1900's, including four complete general stores, many houses of all economic levels, manufacturing lumber, etc.

Major emphasis of museum: Mining and all social history.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Yes.

Special strengths of collections: All aspects of life: 1863-1900. Player pianos, antique cars, horse-drawn vehicles, and merchandise.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent.

## BROADWATER COUNTY MUSEUM AND HISTORICAL LIBRARY

TOWNSEND 59644

Prepared by: Rose Flynn, Director

Schedule of hours: Mid-May through mid-September; closed Monday; open Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday: 12:30 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; no admission.

Brief description of collection: The story of Broadwater County from its beginning to present: fossils through current industry.

Major emphasis of museum: Local history, agriculture, mining, homesteading, etc.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Two cases of stone tools of Indians.

Special strengths of collections: Paleontology: all specimens from Broadwater County prepared and donated by a local fellow of Smithsonian Institute. Homesteading; excellent period rooms: blacksmith, cabin, store, etc.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Rotating art gallery and entry case; changes three times during season; others of fairly permanent nature.

CARTER COUNTY MUSEUM

EKALAKA 59324

Prepared by: Marshall E. Lambert, Director

Schedule of hours: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. daily; closed Mondays; no charge for admission.

Brief description of collection: Mounted dinosaur: Anatosaurus (duck-billed Trachodon), skulls of Triceratops and Pachycephalosouras, extensive marine fossil collection of late Cretaceous, vertebrate paleo fossils extending from late Cretaceous through Paleocene and up to present. Mineral specimens from all over the world.

Major emphasis of museum: Natural history, local community history.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Early settlers and homesteaders of Southeast Montana.

Special strengths of collections: Photographs of old timers and items they used in daily life; artifacts of early humans in this area.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both.

## CASCADE COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

PARIS GIBSON SQUARE, 1400 FIRST AVENUE NORTH, GREAT FALLS 59401

Prepared by: Clara B. Heffern

Schedule of hours: Tuesday through Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;  
Saturday and Sunday: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.; closed Mon.

Brief description of collection: A library containing bound volumes of the Great Falls Tribune 1891-1952; Great Falls City Directories; recent and local county histories and other Western books pertinent to our area; materials people used; photos of Great Falls, Neihart, Stockett area, etc.

Major emphasis of museum: Cascade County; anything which helps give a picture of its development from earliest days through World War II to the present. Later may extend to our first century. Railroads, claims, Anaconda Company, farming, mining.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Information available in Great Falls Tribunes. We have had one program on the Irish in this county and one on Indian migrations. Some artifacts on loan for these.

Special strengths of collections: Great Falls Fire Department; early dental equipment; World Wars I and II; household items from homestead days; early wooden carpenter's tools.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both.

## CASTLE MUSEUM

WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS 59645

Prepared by: Gertrude McStravick, Secretary of the Meagher County Historical Association, Inc.

Schedule of hours: 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. or by appointment; \$1.00 adults; children under 12: free.

Brief description of collection: Indian wearing apparel, tools, possessions and Victorian furniture, some clothes, artifacts of the period.

Major emphasis of museum: Museum is a restored mansion of a stockman.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Yes. Indian.

Special strengths of collections: Indian collection and Victorian furniture.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent.

## CENTRAL MONTANA MUSEUM

408 EAST MAIN, LEWISTOWN 59457

Prepared by: Babbie Deal

Schedule of hours: Monday through Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.—  
courtesy of Chamber of Commerce volunteers.

Brief description of collection: Collection of pioneer pictures is most  
important; all Fergus County papers.

Major emphasis of museum: Heritage.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: None.

Special strengths of collections: Fairly large, well-documented collection  
of photographs of early settlers in Central Montana.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Changed every six years.

## H. EARL CLACK MEMORIAL MUSEUM

HAVRE 59501

Prepared by: Toni Hagener, Curator

Schedule of hours: 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.: Memorial Day through Labor Day and by appointment in off season.

Brief description of collection: Archaeological artifacts from site.  
Emphasis is less on collections than on interpretations. Homestead cabin and old school house are part of the museum.

Major emphasis of museum: Half archaeology and interpretation of Wahpke Chugn buffalo jump site. Half history and development of Havre and Hi-Line area. Prehistory and economic development.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: A few items in addition to early Indian and archaeological materials.

Special strengths of collections: Archaeology of buffalo jump site.  
Over three hundred well-documented photographs of life in area.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent with a few changing.

## COFFRINS OLD WEST GALLERY

1600 MAIN STREET, MILES CITY 59301

Prepared by: Jack Coffrin

Schedule of hours: Monday through Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;  
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; no admission charged.

Brief description of collection: About 400 Huffman photographs; 1100 negatives on file.

Major emphasis of museum: Indians, buffalo hunting, cowboys and cattlemen.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Plains Indians and Huffman photographs: 1880-1901.

Special strengths of collections: Huffman photographs.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent theme, but displays are changed periodically.



## CONRAD MANSION

WOODLAND AVENUE BETWEEN 3RD AND 4TH STREETS EAST, KALISPELL 59901

Prepared by: History Project Staff

Schedule of hours: May 15 through October 15— Daily for guided tours:  
10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; adults: \$2; children: \$1.

Brief description of collection: Restored Norman style mansion built in  
1895 by Charles and Alicia Conrad, Montana pioneers.

Major emphasis of museum: Glimpse of life as it was lived in a Montana  
mansion at the turn of the century.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: None.

Special strengths of collections: Probably the most authentic example in  
the Pacific Northwest of the historic period in which it was built.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent.

## COPPER VILLAGE MUSEUM AND ART CENTER

8TH AND MAIN, P.O. BOX 29, ANACONDA 59711

Prepared by: Florence Cortright, Administrative Assistant

Schedule of hours: Tuesday through Friday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;  
Saturday and Sunday: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.;  
Closed Monday and holidays; no admission charged.

Brief description of collection: Early ranching artifacts: horseshoes, harnesses, buffalo coats, barbed wire collection, buffalo horn chairs, bound copies of Anaconda Standard from 1912; Indian artifacts: arrowheads, stones, beaded garments; Mining: photographs, core samples, histories; Smelting ores: photographs, histories and artifacts; Early merchants: doctor's office and first Anaconda drug store.

Major emphasis of museum: Chronological history of area from Indians, trapping, mining, to early merchants.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Yes: photos of workmen in smelter: approximately 500 photos.

Special strengths of collections: Early history of area is most prominent.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both; change about every six months.

## CUSTER BATTLEFIELD

CROW AGENCY 59022

Prepared by: S. Paul Okey

Schedule of hours: Year-round: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. with expanded summer hours. No admission charged.

Brief description of collection: Several donated private collections of papers and studies by students of the Battle of the Little Bighorn.

Major emphasis of museum: Battle of the Little Bighorn; Plains Indians Wars.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Plains Indian, Crow, Sioux, and Cheyenne.

Special strengths of collections: We have comparatively few artifacts, but a large collection of Custer papers and memorabilia.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both.

## DANIELS COUNTY MUSEUM

Box 133, SCOBAY 59263

Prepared by: Art Miller, President

Schedule of hours: Open from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. every day during the summer. Admission is \$2.00 adults; \$1.00 children.

Brief description of collection: "Pioneer Town" includes an old house, blacksmith shop, the Dirty Shame Saloon-Bank-Post Office which is open for business, and many more buildings; three old steam engines, threshing separators, and many old cars displayed in the museum buildings. Museum buildings with many small items displayed in show cases.

Major emphasis of museum: Farming.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Not yet.

Special strengths of collections: None.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Changing periodically.

## DARBY PIONEER MEMORIAL MUSEUM

HIGHWAY 93, COUNCIL PARK, DARBY 59829

Prepared by: Mrs. Harold J. Hopwood, Darby Federated Woman's Club

Schedule of hours: For summer 1979— three days every week: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; open by appointment for groups. No charge.

Brief description of collection: Photographs, china, kitchen utensils, few clothing articles, furniture, logging and building tools, saddles, skis, mining display with minerals, newspapers of 1890's, some Indian photos of their visits to the Medicine tree or this area, small artifacts, and articles pertaining to life in this community.

Major emphasis of museum: Local logging, farming, mining, Darby history.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Artifacts, photos of pioneers around 1800.

Special strengths of collections: Pioneer photographs, school history, artifacts from old mine cabin (1900 era), albums of C.C.C. from former members of what is now Trapper Creek Job Corps.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent displays varying from year to year.

## EARTH SCIENCE MUSEUM

106 MAIN STREET, LOMA 59640

Prepared by: Henry O. Pope

Schedule of hours: June 1 through September 30— 9:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Daily. No admission charged; donation box.

Brief description of collection: Fifty displays on mineralogy, geology, anthropology, biology, malacology, lapidary, stone and wood carving, many odd formations, paleontology and paleobotany.

Major emphasis of museum: Earth sciences.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: American Indian culture; local artifacts.

Special strengths of collections: American Indian culture; local artifacts

Permanent or changing exhibits: We add new displays each year, otherwise permanent.

## FLATHEAD HISTORICAL SOCIETY

318 THIRD AVENUE EAST, KALISPELL 59901

Prepared by: Marie C. Hubbard, President

Schedule of hours: The Flathead Historical Society no longer operates a museum. We do have a number of pictures and some printed materials. All of them are in storage at this point. They are uncatalogued.

We hope to reactivate our group in the near future, but it is not likely we shall attempt to open a museum. I am sure we will be able to find other ways to make the material available to the public.

## FORT BENTON MUSEUM

FRONT AND 18TH STREETS, FORT BENTON

Prepared by: Helen Seright

Schedule of hours: Mid-May to June 1; day after Labor Day to mid-September:  
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. — June 1 through Labor Day:  
9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. Seven days a week.

Brief description of collection: Photographs and artifacts, Indians, men who "won the West," cowboys, miners, fur traders, and five men who ranked high in our military.

Major emphasis of museum: Travel on the Missouri River.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Dioramas of the Fort, Indian artifacts, the boats that came up the river with supplies and hauled overland as well as taking furs, gold, etc., back to St. Louis. Building of railroad and other early day history.

Special strengths of collections: Approximately five hundred photos relating to history of the area.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent; five new ones in process.



## FORT MISSOULA HISTORICAL MUSEUM

BUILDING 322, FORT MISSOULA, MISSOULA 59801

Prepared by: Frant Grant, Director

Schedule of hours: Tuesday through Sunday year-round: noon to 5:00 p.m.  
No admission charged.

Brief description of collection: Household items, tools and equipment related to life in Western Montana. Also blacksmith tools, farm machinery, and buildings. Missoula memorabilia.

Major emphasis of museum: Timber industry, agriculture, commerce, and military.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Limited individual items, but not grouped in ethnic categories at present.

Special strengths of collections: Logging tools, printing press and materials.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Changing, but we plan to have both permanent and changing exhibits.

## FORT PECK MUSEUM

BOX 208, POWER PLANT # 1, FORT PECK 59223

Prepared by: Robert W. McInerney

Schedule of hours: Memorial Day to Labor Day: 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. daily.  
Off season by scheduled appointment only.

Brief description of collection: Plaster casts of Montana's ancient inhabitants, dinosaur bone, rock formations, fossils, remains of Montana's earliest mammals.

Major emphasis of museums: Fossils.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: We have some Indian artifacts.

Special strengths of collections: Paleontology.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent.

## FRONTIER GATEWAY MUSEUM

BELLE PRAIRIE ROAD (OFF I-94) GLENDIVE 59330

Prepared by: Louise Cross, Curator

Schedule of hours: May and September: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily;  
June, July, and August: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon and  
1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily.

Brief description of collection: Fossils, Indian artifacts, homesteading artifacts, Wibaux fire chain drag, railroad velocipede, furniture, exhibits on Civil War period, Northern Pacific Railroad, and displays reminiscent of Glendive's earliest business district. Small library of material about local personalities and subjects.

Major emphasis of museum: Prehistoric to contemporary (chronological to historical).

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Yes, some.

Special strengths of collections: Homesteading and pioneers.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent; changing occasionally.

## FRONTIER TOWN MUSEUM

HIGHWAY 12, 15 MILES WEST OF HELENA, BOX 836, HELENA 59601

Prepared by: Sue Quigley, Owner

Schedule of hours: April 1 through October 30— Daily: 9:00 a.m. to  
11:00 p.m.; Winter hours vary.

Brief description of collection: Pioneer relics, farming and mining artifacts.

Major emphasis of museum: Indian artifacts.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Indian artifacts.

Special strengths of collections: None.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent.

## GALLATIN PIONEERS MUSEUM

GALLATIN COUNTY COURTHOUSE-- SECOND FLOOR, BOZEMAN 59715

Prepared by: Ramon S. White

Schedule of hours: Monday through Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;  
no charge.

Brief description of collection: Guns, coins, pictures, minerals, arrowheads,  
pioneer tools, fossils, furniture, dishes, Indian dress and tools, jail  
artifacts.

Major emphasis of museum: Pioneer settlement of the Gallatin Valley.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: See above.

Special strengths of collections: None.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent.

## GLACIER NATIONAL PARK MUSEUM

WEST GLACIER PARK 59936

Prepared by: Lucy J. Racine, Park Technician

Schedule of hours: 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., weekdays; no admission.

Brief description of collection: Color slide file for our Park, historical photographs, documents, post cards in vaults.

Major emphasis of museum: Glacier National Park and preservation of its history.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: None.

Special strengths of collections: Mounted specimens of wildlife, study skins of wildlife, herbarium, black and white photo file, some dishes, blankets, etc.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Preserving artifacts, for the most part. However, we do have a few pieces on display.

## GRANT-KOHR'S RANCH, NATIONAL HISTORIC SITE

P.O. Box 790, DEERLODGE 59722 (ON THE WEST END OF MAIN STREET IN TOWN)

Prepared by: Randi Bry

Schedule of hours: Summer: 8:00 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. (subject to change).  
Winter: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; no admission charged.

Brief description of collection: Victorian furnishings, textiles, handwork, tack-harness, bunk house furnishings, cowboy equipment, blacksmith tools, horsedrawn vehicles.

Major emphasis of museum: Frontier cattle era; cattle ranching.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Danish/German artifacts since the Kohrs were German: a small number of items. Also a very few Indian artifacts from the early days (1860's). Some photographs.

Special strengths of collections: Victorian furnishings, textiles, tack, horsedrawn vehicles.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Mostly permanent displays: house museum. There are some seasonal changes and temporary displays.

## HERITAGE MUSEUM

Box 628, LIBBY 59923

Prepared by: Inez Herrig, Secretary

Schedule of hours: June through September: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. weekdays;  
Sunday: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; donations accepted.

Brief description of collection: Displays related to: forestry, lumber industry, mining, trapping, natural history, Indians, and women; includes machinery, outbuildings, and an art gallery.

Major emphasis of museum: Heritage of Libby area with respect to logging, farming, and mining.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Indian artifacts.

Special strengths of collections: Late 1880's to 1920.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both.



HOCKADAY CENTER FOR THE ARTS  
Box 83, KALISPELL 59901

Prepared by: John Brice, Director

Schedule of hours: Tuesday through Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
No admission charged.

Brief description of collection: Approximately thirty pieces of two-dimensional and three-dimensional art. It has generally been produced in the last twenty years by local artists. There are a few exceptions.

Major emphasis of museum: Art.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: In the future, the Hockaday is expecting a large collection of Indian artifacts to be given to the Center on loan.

Special strengths of collections: Not at present. Due to lack of funds, we have not begun a major acquisition program.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Changing monthly.

## JUDITH BASIN MUSEUM

STANFORD 59479

Prepared by: Hettie E. Rauscher, Curator

Schedule of hours: Museum opens Memorial Day: Tuesday through Friday:  
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.;  
Saturday and Sunday: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Brief description of collection: We have fourteen old show cases of various articles. Name it and we have it. We have a display of 50,000 buttons on cards (one woman's collection), a display of from 2500-3000 salt and pepper shakers (one woman's collection) in original cases on wall, and two picture frames made of wheat straw which are very old.

Major emphasis of museum: None.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Many pictures pertain to early day settlers and folks who have lived here in the past. Also, some Indian artifacts, iron toys, dolls, school books, etc.

Special strengths of collections: None.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent; some changing exhibits on loan.

LIBBY BRANCH: MONTANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

STAR ROUTE 2, LIBBY 59923

Prepared by: Jennifer Jeffries Thompson

Schedule of hours: May through mid-September: every day 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.  
Office open from October through April: weekdays:  
8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Brief description of collection: Historical and ethnographic materials.  
Some archives and photographs, mostly early 20th century.

Major emphasis of museum: Historical overview: geologic, ethnographic, fur trade, missionary activity, mining, logging, transportation.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Photographs and some artifacts.

Special strengths of collections: None.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both.

## LIBERTY COUNTY MUSEUM

Box 205, CHESTER 59522

Prepared by: Almira Brwick

Schedule of hours: Last Saturday in May to September 15: 2:00 p.m. to  
5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; donations accepted.

Brief description of collection: Homestead articles and machinery.

Major emphasis of museum: Farming.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Yes.

Special strengths of collections: A stone lettered "JHN1713" and an arrow  
pointing to small end of rock.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent.

MARIAS MUSEUM OF HISTORY AND ART

Box 830, SHELBY 59470

Prepared by: Mabel Iverson

Schedule of hours: May 1 to October 1: Monday through Saturday: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Also every Thursday all year and any time by appointment. No charge.

Brief description of collection: An early school room, doctor's office, early dress display, some ledgers and account books, old books, mining artifacts, and several cases of rocks, mineral samples, and bones.

Major emphasis of museum: Homesteading, early industries, home living.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: A fairly extensive photo collection including some very interesting Blackfeet photos.

Special strengths of collections: Fossils, dinosaur.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both.

## McCONE COUNTY MUSEUM

CIRCLE 59215

Prepared by: Verna A. Carlson, Secretary-Treasurer, Pioneer Historical Circle

Schedule of hours: June, July, and August: Tuesday through Saturday:  
2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; other days and time by appointment.  
No charge.

Brief description of collection: Historical periods: dinosaur, Indians, ranch, homestead. Fifty years of bound newspapers, and fifty years of railroad items.

Major emphasis of museum: The museum was started, and is operated by, the Pioneer Historical Circle. The purpose, as stated in the by-laws, is: to collect, preserve, and exhibit historical records and relics.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Small collections of photos relating to early settlers.

Special strengths of collections: None.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent.

## MINERAL COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

IN OLD HOSPITAL BUILDING, SUPERIOR 59872

Prepared by: Martha Corn

Schedule of hours: June 1 to September 15: Tuesday through Friday: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. With volunteer help, we open by appointment. No admission charged; donations accepted.

Brief description of collection: Besides pictures, we have some antiques found in our county that can be used in different exhibits.

Major emphasis of museum: Logging, mining, and railroads. History of Mineral County.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: None.

Special strengths of collections: Old mining equipment and ore samples. Pictures of Savenac Nursey: first tree nursery in U.S. Permanent pictures and equipment of lookouts.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both.

## MINERAL MUSEUM

MONTANA COLLEGE OF MINERAL SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, BUTTE 59701

Prepared by: Richard B. Berg

Schedule of hours: Winter— weekdays: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Summer—  
(mid-june to end of September) 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.  
every day; no admission charged.

Brief description of collection: Approximately 14,000 specimens of minerals.

Major emphasis of museum: Minerals.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: None.

Special strengths of collections: Butte minerals. We are improving the  
collection of Montana minerals.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Changing twice a year.



225 NORTH ROBERTS, HELENA 59601

Prepared by: Patty Dean, Registrar

Schedule of hours: Winter— Monday through Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;  
Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; closed Sunday.  
Summer— Monday through Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.;  
Saturday: 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; and  
Sunday: 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Brief description of collection: Furniture, art works, decorative arts, firearms, costumes, photographs (actually a division of the Historical Society Archives), tools and equipment, and Native American artifacts.

Major emphasis of museum: All material culture aspects of the history of Montana.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Photographs, manuscripts, artifacts, etc.

Special strengths of collections: Late nineteenth century material culture and Native American artifacts, especially costumes.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both.

## MUSEUM OF MONTANA WILDLIFE

HIGHWAY # 2 AND 89, BROWNING

Prepared by: Robert M. Sriver, Director

Schedule of hours: Summer— 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.; other times by appointment; admission is charged.

Brief description of collection: Dioramas, art (sculpture), wildlife displays.

Major emphasis of museum: Wildlife and environment; ecology.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Blackfeet Indians: sculpture pieces of and about the Blackfeet.

Special strengths of collections: Artifacts, mounted specimens of Montana wildlife.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both.

MUSEUM OF THE PLAINS INDIAN AND CRAFT CENTER

P.O. Box 400, BROWNING 59417

Prepared by: Rosemary Ellison, Acting Curator

Schedule of hours: June through September— daily: 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;  
October through May— Monday through Friday: 10:00 a.m.  
to 4:30 p.m.; closed holidays; no admission charged.

Brief description of collection: Arts of the tribal people of the Northern  
Plains; costumes of men, women, and children; art forms related to social  
and ceremonial aspects of tribal cultures.

Major emphasis of museum: To present the richness and diversity of Plains  
Indian art.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Arts of the Blackfeet,  
Crow, Northern Cheyenne, Sioux, Assiniboine, Arapaho, Shoshone, Nez  
Perce, Flathead, Chippewa, and Cree.

Special strengths of collections: Multi-media presentation about the evolution  
of Indian cultures on the Northern Plains; annual one-person exhibitions.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both.

## MUSEUM OF THE ROCKIES

MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY, BOZEMAN 59715

Prepared by: Jim B. Goosey

Schedule of hours: Weekdays: 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday:  
1:00 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Brief description of collection: Includes artifacts from farming, businesses, home technology, and mining. We also have archaeological and anthropological specimens.

Major emphasis of museum: Pioneers and settlers, anthropology, archaeology, and art. Our goal is to adequately interpret the physical and social heritage of the Northern Rockies.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: We have photographs and artifacts that pertain to the history and peoples of this region.

Special strengths of collections: Strong in cultural artifacts such as tools, furniture, etc.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both.

# MUSSELSHELL VALLEY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

524 FIRST STREET WEST, ROUNDUP 59072

Prepared by: Shirley Parrott

Schedule of hours: May to October: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. every day;  
no admission charged.

Brief description of collection: An old coal mine, 1880 cabin, 1900 home,  
one-room school, 1920 stove and post office, and Indian artifacts display,  
and early hospital operating room.

Major emphasis of museum: Things used when this area was settled.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Yes.

Special strengths of collections: Early settlers.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both.

## NORTHERN MONTANA COLLEGE COLLECTIONS

MATH SCIENCE BUILDING NORTHERN MONTANA COLLEGE, HAVRE 59501

Prepared by: L.W. Hagener

Schedule of hours: During school sessions— Monday through Friday: 8:00 a.m.  
to 5:00 p.m.; no admission charged.

Brief description of collection: Geological specimens, fossils, bird collection, Audubon sheep, small animals, herbarium, shell collection, and other natural history materials. Indian artifacts.

Major emphasis of museum: Natural history and Indian materials.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Yes.

Special strengths of collections: Exhaustive and well-documented paleontological collection from area.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both.

## O'FALLON HISTORICAL MUSEUM

COURTHOUSE COMPLEX, BAKER 59393

Prepared by: Jessie V. Price

Schedule of hours: Starting in June— Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday:  
2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. (tentative schedule)

Brief description of collection: Museum is housed in the old Fallon County Jail. Contains old-fashioned parlor, armed forces display, many pictures, country school, artifacts and relics of high school. Clothes displayed on mannequins for different periods, children's room: bed and toys and clothes. Tools and other facilities.

Major emphasis of museum: Artifacts which pertain to Fallon County history.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: None.

Special strengths of collections: Homesteading and settling of the county.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent.

## PARIS GIBSON SQUARE

1400 FIRST AVENUE NORTH, GREAT FALLS 59401

Prepared by: Elizabeth Rak, Director

Schedule of hours: Tuesday through Friday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;  
Saturday and Sunday: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.; no charge.

Brief description of collection: Junior League of Great Falls' permanent collection: Montana artists, Lee Stein (folk artist) partial collection, and wood figures.

Major emphasis of museum: Paris Gibson Square is a community/county cultural center, gallery, museum, genealogy society, sales shop, lunch restaurant, classrooms, historical society, and artist-in-residence.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: None.

Special strengths of collections: None.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both; two galleries have monthly exhibitions of local, state, and regional artists.



PARK COUNTY MUSEUM, HOUSE OF MEMORIES

118 WEST CHINOOK, LIVINGSTON 59047

Prepared by: Doris Whitehorn, Caretaker

Schedule of hours: June 1 through Labor Day— 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. and  
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; other times by appointment; no  
admission charged.

Brief description of collection: Early photographs, church, school, business,  
rock and mineral displays, gold and coal mining, stone tools, and recon-  
struction of stole bison butchering site.

Major emphasis of museum: Ranching, railroading, mining, archaeology, and  
Yellowstone Park exploration.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Archaeological artifacts  
from Indians.

Special strengths of collections: Old newspapers.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent.

## PHILLIPS COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

OLD CARNEGIE LIBRARY BUILDING, MALTA 59538

Prepared by: Hazel Didier

Schedule of hours: Opened September, 1979.

Brief description of collection: Indian artifacts such as arrowheads, scrapers, etc. Homestead era items, some diaries and account books, some mining artifacts.

Major emphasis of museum: To develop a chronological history, with emphasis on homestead era and cattle industry.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Some.

Special strengths of collections: None.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Changing periodically.

## PIONEER MUSEUM

U.S. HIGHWAY 2 WEST, GLASGOW 59230

Prepared by: Irma McInerney

Schedule of hours: Memorial Day to Labor Day— 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.; other times by appointment; no admission charged.

Brief description of collection: Several hundred 8" X 10" photographs on display. Fossil specimens, Indian artifacts, Stan Kalinski wildlife collection, dioramas of Plains Indian hunting, Lewis and Clark and Old Fort Peck. Exhibit on Fort Peck Dam and history of local aviation.

Major emphasis of museum: Pioneer history; theme is "From Dinosaur Bones to Moon Walk."

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Outstanding collection of Indian artifacts. Many photographs of pioneers and their activities. Histories of most communities in Valley County.

Special strengths of collections: Indian artifacts, wild animal display, progress of the area.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent.

## POWELL COUNTY MUSEUM AND ARTS FOUNDATION

308 COTTONWOOD AVENUE, DEER LODGE 59722

Prepared by: Bernice H. Mannix, Vice President

Schedule of hours: Wednesday through Sunday: 12:00 noon to 8:00 p.m.; no admission charged; donations, memberships and memorials invited.

Brief description of collection: Household furnishings and equipment; history of first college in Montana, other schools and state prison; pictures and artifacts from historical figures of the area; wooden bar; organs; safe; tools; pictures of old buildings in area; old clothes; history and artifacts from former businesses in Deer Lodge; tread mill, log cabin, etc.

Major emphasis of museum: Preserving history of the area: people, schools, state prison, businesses, cattle ranching and farming.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Photographs and artifacts.

Special strengths of collections: Varied.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both.

J. K. RALSTON MUSEUM AND ART CENTER

221 FIFTH STREET S.W., SIDNEY 59270

Prepared by: Linda K. Mann, Director

Schedule of hours: Daily: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; no admission charged.

Brief description of collection: Barbed wire collection, hub cap collection, tools, and guns.

Major emphasis of museum: Homesteading era.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Homesteading.

Special strengths of collections: None.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent; some changing display cases.

## RANGE RIDERS MUSEUM

WEST OF MILES CITY ON HIGHWAY 10 AND 12, MILES CITY 59301

Prepared by: Tom Collieran, Secretary-Treasurer, Range Riders, Inc.

Schedule of hours: April 1 to June 1 and September to November 1— 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; June 1 to September 1— 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.  
Admission: adults: \$1.00; children 12-18: 50¢.

Brief description of collection: Large collection of photographs dealing with early cattle industry and rodeo. Indian artifacts, gun collections, stagecoach, cowboy artifacts, and artifacts of steamboat trade and mule trains.

Major emphasis of museum: Early range life.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Early day settlers and Indians.

Special strengths of collections: Western lore and artifacts.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent.

RICKETTS MEMORIAL MUSEUM

OLD COURTHOUSE, HAMILTON 59840

Prepared by: William L. Jellison

Schedule of hours: Monday through Friday: 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Brief description of collection: Collection of Insects.

Major emphasis of museum: Spotted Fever, work of Rocky Mountain Laboratory.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Yes.

Special strengths of collections: Mostly photographs of scientists associated with Spotted Fever Research.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent.

## ROSEBUD COUNTY PIONEER MUSEUM

Box 626, FORSYTH 59327

Prepared by: Anna B. Marcellus, Curator

Schedule of hours: Monday through Saturday: 9:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.;  
Sunday: 1:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. May 15 through September 15.

Brief description of collection: Miscellaneous.

Major emphasis of museum: Pioneers.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Photographs of Indians  
and early pioneers.

Special strengths of collections: None.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent.



CHARLES M. RUSSELL MUSEUM

1201 FOURTH AVENUE NORTH, GREAT FALLS 59401

Prepared by: Jerry Goroski, Assistant Museum Director

Schedule of hours: Monday through Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;  
Sunday: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; admission is charged.

Brief description of collection: The collection consists of painting, drawings, and sculptures from artists such as C.M. Russell, Earl Heikka, J.H. Sharp, I.E. Couse and many others.

Major emphasis of museum: Painting, drawings, sculptures of Indians, cowboys and wildlife of the West.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Yes.

Special strengths of collections: Possibly the Indian cultures, but the collection is strong in many areas.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both— new exhibits each month.

## SHERIDAN COUNTY HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Box 376, PLENTYWOOD 59254

Prepared by: Earl Holje, Secretary-Treasurer

Schedule of hours: May though October— Tuesday through Sunday: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. or by request; no admission charged.

Brief description of collection: Homestead shack with all furnishings, farming equipment, country store with shelves stocked, old time post office, dress shop, military display, pioneer kitchen, parlor, dental office, schoolhouse, telephone exchange, law office, coal mine, and wagons and tools used in mining.

Major emphasis of museum: Pioneering.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Artifacts pertaining to early pioneers and later homesteaders; information about ghost towns in the area.

Special strengths of collections: Pioneering and homesteading.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both.

## SOD BUSTER MUSEUM

HIGHWAY 87, 5 MILES S.E. OF WINDHAM 59488

Prepared by: Ivan Zimmer

Schedule of hours: June through August-- Daily: 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.;  
no admission charge.

Brief description of collection: All.

Major emphasis of museum: Farming and mining.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Small collection of  
photographs on display, some of them quite good and most well-documented.

Special strengths of collections: None.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent.

## STILLWATER COUNTY HISTORICAL GALLERY

COLUMBUS CIVIC CENTER, COLUMBUS 59019

Prepared by: Jim Annin

Schedule of hours: Monday through Friday: 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., excluding lunch hour.

Brief description of collection: 2,300 photographs (8 X 10) of people, places, and events pertinent to this particular area. 900 are on the walls of the Columbus Civic Center and fourteen books contain 100 each. Also a volume of history of the area and earliest famous pioneers can be found in a volume of history called They Gazed on the Beartooths.

Major emphasis of museum: Photographs of people.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: None.

Special strengths of collections: Display is divided into eight geographic areas surrounding Columbus: Reedpoint, Rapelje, Greycliff, etc.— all are photos of early settlers.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Unknown.

## TETON TRAIL VILLAGE MUSEUM

CHOTEAU 59422

Prepared by: Florence E. Weist, Manager

Schedule of hours: May 25 through September 15— everyday: 10:00 a.m. to  
6:00 p.m.

Brief description of collection: Cars, lamps, furniture, Indian hammers, gun  
collection, knives, bottles, and arrowheads.

Major emphasis of museum: Farming.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Blackfoot Indians,  
American pioneers.

Special strengths of collections: Gun collection, knives, bottles, and arrow-  
heads.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent.

## UTICA MUSEUM

MAIN STREET, UTICA 59452

Prepared by: Barbara Twiford, Secretary, Utica Historical Society

Schedule of hours: Memorial Day to Labor Day— Saturdays and Sundays:  
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. During the other days, people  
are available to open the museum.

Brief description of collection: Piano, pump organ, chairs, dishes, farm  
machinery, old clothes, pictures of early days in Utica, memorabilia,  
Russell prints for sale, old furniture.

Major emphasis of museum: Farming and ranching, sapphire mining.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: No.

Special strengths of collections: Emphasis on the homestead era.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Mostly permanent. A few are just on loan.  
New items are added each year.

VIRGELLE MERCANTILE

15 MILES SOUTH OF BIG SANDY 59520

Prepared by: Donald Sorensen

Schedule of hours: Summer (June, July, August)— every day. Other times by appointment. No admission charged.

Brief description of collection: An old general store I have restored and I sell antiques and a few grocery supplies, etc., in the summer.

Major emphasis of museum: Homestead era, cookstoves, etc., and "old general store."

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: A few.

Special strengths of collections: None.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Some permanent. I have antiques for sale and they change all the time.

## WESTERN HERITAGE CENTER

2822 MONTANA AVENUE, BILLINGS 59101

Prepared by: Connie Weber

Schedule of hours: Tuesday through Saturday: 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.;  
Sunday: 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; closed Monday.  
No admission charged.

Brief description of collection: Indian artifacts, mining, quilts, clothing,  
photographs, trunks, etc.

Major emphasis of museum: Anything pertaining to the history of the West,  
Indians, mining, cowboys, etc.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Some.

Special strengths of collections: No, we collect a little bit of everything,  
although it all dates pre-1930.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Changing periodically.



# WOLF POINT AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY MUSEUM

BASEMENT OF COUNTY LIBRARY, WOLF POINT 59201

Prepared by: Evelyn M. Randall

Schedule of hours: May 15 through September 15— Monday through Friday:  
10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. We are supported by a county mill  
levy plus memberships and memorials.

Brief description of collection: Old furniture, country post office, dishes, silver, some art work, books, printing press, some clothing, old tools, saddles, cameras, arrowhead collection, gun collection (private), some on loan, jury box, ballot box, phonographs, many items in the general store, organs, lamps, radios. Also a few Indian hammers and rocks, some beadwork.

Major emphasis of museum: Homestead days, farming and ranching.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Yes, the collection consists of approximately 300 photos relating to ranching and homesteading.

Special strengths of collections: We have many hand-made tools and items that pioneers used in every day life.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Try to vary to create new interest each year.

## WORLD MUSEUM OF MINING AND HELL ROARIN' GULCH

WEST OF BUTTE ON PARK STREET, BOX 3333, BUTTE 59701

Prepared by: David Johns

Schedule of hours: Mid-June through Labor Day-- daily: 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.;  
Rest of the year-- Tuesday through Sunday: 10:00 a.m. to  
5:00 p.m. (closed Monday); Closed November through March.  
No admission charged; donations accepted.

Brief description of collection: Mining artifacts of all kinds and ages, from  
a miner's lamp to 65-ton trucks and a full-size mine train (electric).  
A complete mining town with fully-stocked stores; a 1900 home under  
restoration.

Major emphasis of museum: Mining.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Yes.

Special strengths of collections: Mining equipment, mining camp circa 1905.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both.

## YELLOWSTONE ART CENTER

401 NORTH 27TH STREET, BILLINGS 59101

Prepared by: Donna M. Forbes, Director

Schedule of hours: Tuesday through Friday: 11:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; Wednesday and Thursday evenings: 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday: 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m.; no admission.

Brief description of collection: 20th century paintings and prints; Montana pottery; Huffman photos. Paintings include a major gift from the George Poindexter family of abstract expressionist paintings of the New York School. The Mary Mulloy Carmichael collection of 20th century French prints (Picasso, Matisse, Braque, etc.); the Malcom MacKay collection of Olaf Weighorst painting; eleven paintings by Andrew Hofmeister, plus paintings and prints by several Montana artists.

Major emphasis of museum: Art, both contemporary and historical. Five galleries.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Twenty-five Huffman photos.

Special strengths of collections: None.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Continuing program of changing exhibitions, about twenty-six each year.

## YELLOWSTONE COUNTY MUSEUM

LOGAN FIELD, Box 959, BILLINGS 59101

Prepared by: Peter Yegen, Jr.

Schedule of hours: Tuesday through Saturday: 10:30 a.m. to noon and 1:00 p.m.  
to 5:00 p.m.; Sunday: 2:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.; no admission.

Brief description of collection: Indian artifacts.

Major emphasis of museum: The Old West.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Indian artifacts.

Special strengths of collections: Ancient moccasins (quill sewed).

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both.

## STATE MONUMENTS, PARKS, AND HISTORIC SITES

For a detailed listing of state monuments, state parks, and historic sites, refer to the Montana Historic Preservation Plan compiled by the Fish and Game Commission in July, 1975.

## BANNACK, MONTANA

## HIGHWAY 278 BETWEEN DILLON AND WISDOM

Prepared by: History Project Staff      Park Manager: Roy Herseth

Schedule of hours: Town site always available for wandering through;  
buildings open daily or at request. See Roy Herseth.

Brief description of collection: Town of Bannack: site of Montana's first major gold discovery and Montana's first legislature for the Territory; home of vigilantes; buildings of log, frame and brick; all aspects of gold mining technology represented.

Major emphasis of museum: Early gold-rush boom town.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Not specifically.

Special strengths of collections: Historic value of town.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent.

## FORT OWEN

STEVENSVILLE 59870 (½ MILE EAST OF STEVENSVILLE CROSSING; TURN AT SIGN)

Prepared by: Claire Rhein, Stevensville Historical Society

Schedule of hours: Open year-round; no admission.

Brief description of collection: Farm and mill equipment and fragments.

Major emphasis of museum: No museum per se, but archeological digs in progress and artifacts from previous digs.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Fort Owen artifacts deal with life in Bitterroot Valley from 1860's to the near present.

Special strengths of collections: Fort Owen is a State Monument as well as National Historic Site.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Displays are added all the time.

## PICTOGRAPH CAVES: STATE MONUMENT

SEVEN MILES S.E. OF BILLINGS WITH ACCESS FROM I-90 AT LOCKWOOD TURNOFF

Prepared by: History Project Staff

Schedule of hours: May 1 through November 1-- Daily: 11:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.;  
no admission charge.

Brief description of collection: Three sandstone caves with clearly visible  
Indian rock paintings on the walls done in black and red.

Major emphasis of museum: Pictographs and dwelling caves used by prehistoric  
hunters.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Rock paintings were done  
by Indian people thousands of years ago.

Special strengths of collections: Pictographs.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Permanent



PLENTY COUPS MUSEUM

Box 35, PRYOR 59066

Prepared by: Museum staff

Schedule of hours: June 1 through Labor Day— Monday through Saturday:  
9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.; May 1 through May 31 and September 5  
through September 30: same hours, except closed Wednesday  
and Thursday; October 1 through April 30: appointment  
possible through written request.

Brief description of collection: Crow photographs, documents, and ethno-  
graphic items.

Major emphasis of museum: Crow history.

Materials pertaining to ethnic or cultural history: Crow history.

Special strengths of collections: No.

Permanent or changing exhibits: Both.

## ULM PISHKUN: STATE MONUMENT

I-15 SOUTH OF GREAT FALLS AT ULM MILEPOST 274, THEN WEST 4 MILES  
ON COUNTY ROAD

Prepared by: History Project Staff

Schedule of hours: Roadside stop. Interpretive device available.

Brief description of site: A buffalo "kill" site extends for nearly a mile, rising from a jumble of rock to fifty feet in height. The face of the cliff is sheer in most places, and some Indian paintings are visible. The decayed remains of killed buffalo line the trench at the base of the cliff.

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\* indicates major emphasis of museum

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## NOTES

The following museums did not respond to questionnaires after three inquiries:

Bank's Shell Museum  
Fort Keogh Museum  
Nesbit Museum  
Old Newspaper Museum  
Polson-Flathead Historical Museum  
Poplar Museum  
Pryor Museum  
Rank Drug Store

The following museum indicated that it is no longer operating:

Rue's Frontier Museum

Some museums are not listed because we were unable to contact the curators either by phone or mail. If you know of missing museums, please help us to complete this survey by forwarding the museum's name, address, and phone number to Dick Berg, President of Museums Association of Montana, Montana College of Mineral Science & Technology, Butte, Montana 59701.





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